



## H.RES. 1117 – Declaring the support of the House of Representatives for the goals and ideals of Earth Day and for developing the scientific and technological capabilities to achieve those goals

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### FLOOR SITUATION

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H.Res. 1117 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Jerry McNerney (D-CA) on April 17, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee on the Science and Technology, but was never considered.

H.Res. 1117 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on April 22, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

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H.Res. 1117 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the goals and ideals of Earth Day and thanks the many organizers and participants across the country for their tireless efforts in support of the environment;
- Encourages the Department of Energy to step up its efforts in research, development, and demonstration of renewable energy technology and energy conservation techniques; and
- Encourages all segments of American society to work together in ensuring that the research and development necessary to uncover solutions to our major environmental problems occurs in a timely manner.

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### BACKGROUND

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The first Earth Day was celebrated in 1970 and was started by Senator Gaylord Nelson (D-WI). It is now held every year on April 22 in the United States.

The goals of Earth Day activities are to increase our understanding of the environment and encourage energy conservation, use of renewable energy, use of natural resources, and recycling.

Each year the Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP) within the Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy develops and distributes educational outreach materials to Federal agencies throughout the United States, including military installations abroad. These materials are used to decrease the amount of fossil fuel used to power homes, offices, and cars. The guidelines and suggestions are used to increase energy security, reduce operating costs, lower emissions, and protect our environment.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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